

Definitions Used for the Grant Programs

Paratransit

For the sole purpose of this grant program, “paratransit projects” are defined as those transportation services provided:

- a. to individuals that have special transportation needs;
- b. by flexible forms of public transportation that is not operated over a fixed route, sometimes referred to as “demand response” or “dial-a-ride”;
- and
- c. are for the purpose of increasing access to basic services such as education, medical, employment, and social activities.

Persons with special transportation needs

Defined in RCW 47.06B as “those persons, including their personal attendants, who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or purchase transportation.”

Public Transportation Services

Public transportation, as defined by 49 U.S.C., Chapter 53, Section 5302, is mass transportation by a conveyance that provides regular and continuing general or special transportation to the public, but does not include school bus, charter bus, or sightseeing transportation.

Projects using these funds may be designed to maximize use by members of the general public who are transportation-disadvantaged, including elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

Coordinated human service transportation, which primarily serves elderly persons and persons with disabilities, but which is **not restricted** from carrying other members of the public, is considered available to the general public if it is marketed as public transit service.

Rural Area

Incorporated and unincorporated communities and unincorporated areas in a county outside of a designated urbanized area. Total population of the county may exceed 50,000.

Rural Transit

A transit provider, whose administrative headquarters is located in a rural area, that operates principally in rural areas, but can operate into and returning from urban areas.

Urban Area (Same as Urbanized Area)

A geographic area of 50,000 population or more, defined by the US Bureau of the Census, with a central city and surrounding closely settled patterns. Small urban areas have populations between 50,000 and 200,000; large urban areas have populations greater than 200,000.

Urban Transit, Large

A transit provider, whose administrative headquarters is located in a large urban area, that operates principally in a large urban area but may also operate into and returning from rural and small urban areas.

Urban Transit, Small

A transit provider, whose administrative headquarters is located in a small urban area, that operates principally in the small urban area but may also operate into and returning from rural and large urban areas.